PATENT Express Mail Label No.: EL 827036310US Attorney Docket No.: 2558B-059411US

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner:

Michael I. WATKINS et al.

Art Unit:

Application No.:

Filed: Herwith

For:

MULTIPLEX FLOW ASSAYS

PREFERABLY WITH MAGNETIC PARTICLES AS SOLID PHASE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the divisional patent application filed herewith. Prior to examination, please make the following amendments.

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1 change the paragraph "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION" to read:

This application is a division of application serial no. 09/302,920 filed April 30, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 08/972,563 filed November 18, 1997, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20. Claims 21-49 remain for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Henry Heines Reg. No. 28,219

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: (415) 576-0200 Fax: (415) 576-0300

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**PATENT** 

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## MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES

This application is a division of application serial no. 09/302,920 filed April 30, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of [co-pending] application serial no. 08/972,563[,] filed November 18, 1997, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.